This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Previously presented) A method for controlling and providing access to a file to a remote computer over a network, comprising:

maintaining metadata about files maintained at remote storage locations;

receiving a request, at a server, from the remote computer over the network, wherein the request includes a filename corresponding to a requested file;

determining from the metadata, by the server, one remote storage location address associated with the filename where the requested file is located;

updating, by the server, the metadata for the requested file; and

sending, by the server, the one remote storage location address to the remote computer, wherein the one remote storage location address where the requested file is located is more proximate to the remote computer than to the server.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the remote computer is a source code management system client.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the one remote storage location address identifies a storage device that is at a geographical location closer to the remote computer than a location of the metadata, and wherein based on the received request the server that received the request from the remote computer directly communicates the one storage location address for retrieval of the requested file to the network for transmission to the remote computer.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the request is for checking-out the requested file corresponding to the filename, and further comprising:

locking the requested file;

returning a response code to the remote computer indicating that file check-out is successful; and

updating the metadata indicating that the requested file is checked-out and locked.

5. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the request is for checking-in the requested file corresponding to the filename, and further comprising:

updating the metadata indicating the requested file is unlocked; and

returning a response code indicating that the file check-in is successful.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

processing a pattern of requests for the requested file received from remote computers at different geographical locations;

determining a plurality of remote storage locations based on the pattern of requests for the requested file;

storing the requested file corresponding to the filename at the determined plurality of remote storage locations; and

saving a correspondence between the requested file and storage location addresses corresponding to the determined plurality of remote storage locations in the metadata.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein one determined remote storage location is at a geographical location that is more proximate to the remote computer having more requests for the requested file than other remote computers.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein one determined remote storage location is selected from the plurality of remote storage locations to minimize a distance the requested file is transmitted between each remote computer and the one determined remote storage location based on the number of requests for the file from each remote computer.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the remote computer is a source code management system client, and the request is one of check-in, check-out, extract, lock, unlock, delete.

10. (Previously presented) A method for accessing a file in a source code management system, comprising:

sending, from a client, a first request for the file to a server;

receiving, at the client, a storage location address containing the file in response to the first request, wherein the storage location address containing the file is located more proximate to the client than to the server;

sending, from the client, a second request to the storage location address; and

receiving, at the client, an access to the file from the storage location address.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the first request is for checking-out the file, and further comprising:

downloading the file from the storage location address.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the first request is for checking-in the file, and further comprising:

sending a new version of the file to the storage location address.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10, further comprising:

receiving a first response code from the server in response to the first request; and

receiving a second response code from the storage location in response to the second request.

14. (Previously presented) A system for controlling and providing access to a file to remote computers over a network, wherein remote storage locations are accessible over the network, comprising:

metadata including information about files at the remote storage locations;

means for receiving a request from a remote computer over the network, wherein the request includes a filename corresponding to a requested file;

means for determining from the metadata one storage location address of one remote storage location associated with the filename where the requested file is located;

means for updating the metadata for the requested file; and

means for sending the remote storage location address to the remote computer, wherein the remote storage location address where the requested file is located is more proximate to the remote computer than to the system.

15. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein the remote computer is a source code management system client.

16. (Previously presented) The system of claim 15, wherein the storage location address identifies a storage device that is at a geographical location closer to the remote computer than a location of the metadata, and wherein the system further comprises:

means for directly communicating the one storage location address for retrieval of the requested file to the network for transmission to the remote computer, based on the received request.

17. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the request is for checking-out the requested file corresponding to the filename, and further comprising:

means for locking the requested file;

means for returning a response code to the remote computer indicating that file check-out is successful; and

means for updating the metadata indicating that the requested file is checked-out and locked.

18. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the request is for checking-in the requested file corresponding to the filename, and further comprising:

means for updating the metadata indicating the requested file is unlocked; and

means for returning a response code indicating that the file check-in is successful.

19. (Previously presented) The system of claim 14, further comprising:

means for processing a pattern of requests for the requested file received from the remote computers at different geographical locations;

means for determining a plurality of remote storage locations based on the pattern of requests for the requested file;

means for storing the requested file corresponding to the filename at the determined plurality of remote storage locations; and

means for saving a correspondence between the requested file and the storage location addresses corresponding to the determined plurality of remote storage locations in the metadata.

20. (Previously presented) The system of claim 19, wherein one determined remote storage location is at a geographical location that is more proximate to the remote computer having more requests for the requested file than other remote computers.

21. (Previously presented) The system of claim 19, wherein one determined remote storage location is selected from the plurality of remote storage locations to minimize a distance the requested file is transmitted between each remote computer and the one determined remote storage location based on the number of requests for the file from each remote computer.

22. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein the remote computer is a source code management system client, and the request is one of check-in, check-out, extract, lock, unlock, delete.

23. (Previously presented) A system for accessing a file in a source code management system, wherein the system is in communication with a server, the system comprising:

means for sending a first request for the file to the server;

means for receiving a storage location address containing the file in response to the first request, wherein the storage location address containing the file is located more proximate to the system than to the server;

means for sending a second request to the storage location address; and

means for receiving an access to the file from the storage location address.

24. (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein the first request is for checking-out the file, and further comprising:

means for downloading the file from the storage location address.

25. (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein the first request is for checking-in the file, and further comprising:

means for sending a new version of the file to the storage location address.

26. (Previously presented) The system of claim 23, further comprising:

means for receiving a first response code from the server in response to the first request; and

means for receiving a second response code from the storage location in response to the second request.

27. (Previously presented) An article of manufacture including code for controlling and providing access to a file at storage locations on a network to a remote computer coupled to a server over the network, wherein the code is capable of causing operations comprising:

maintaining metadata about files maintained at remote storage locations;

receiving a request, at the server, from the remote computer over the network, wherein the request includes a filename corresponding to a requested file;

determining from the metadata, by the server, one remote storage location address associated with the filename where the requested file is located;

updating, by the server, the metadata for the requested file; and

sending, by the server, the storage location address to the remote computer, wherein the one remote storage location address where the requested file is located is more proximate to the remote computer than to the server.

28. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 27, wherein the remote computer is a source code management system client.

29. (Previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 28, wherein the one storage location address identifies a storage device that is at a geographical location closer to the remote computer than a location of the metadata, and wherein based on the received request the server that received the request from the remote computer directly communicates the one storage

location address for retrieval of the requested file to the network for transmission to the remote computer.

30. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 29, wherein the request is for checking-out the requested file corresponding to the filename, and further comprising:

locking the requested file;

returning a response code to the remote computer indicating that file check-out is successful; and

updating the metadata indicating that the requested file is checked-out and locked.

31. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 29, wherein the request is for checking-in the requested file corresponding to the filename, and further comprising:

updating the metadata indicating the requested file is unlocked; and

returning a response code indicating that the file check-in is successful.

32. (Previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 27, further comprising:

processing a pattern of requests for the requested file received from remote computers at different geographical locations;

determining a plurality of remote storage locations based on the pattern of requests for the requested file;

storing the requested file corresponding to the filename at the determined plurality of remote storage locations; and

saving a correspondence between the requested file and the storage location addresses corresponding to the determined plurality of remote storage locations in the metadata.

33. (Previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 32, wherein one determined remote storage location is at a geographical location that is more proximate to the remote computer having more requests for the requested file than other remote computers.

34. (Previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 32, wherein one determined remote storage location is selected from the plurality of remote storage locations to minimize a distance the requested file is transmitted between each remote computer and the remote storage location based on the number of requests for the file from each remote computer.

35. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 27, wherein the remote computer is a source code management system client, and the request is one of check-in, check-out, extract, lock, unlock, delete.

36. (Previously presented) An article of manufacture including code for accessing a file in a source code management system from a client to a server, wherein the code is capable of causing operations comprising:

sending, from the client, a first request for the file to the server;

receiving, at the client, a storage location address containing the file in response to the first request, wherein the storage location address containing the file is located more proximate to the client than to the server;

sending, from the server, a second request to the storage location address; and

receiving, at the client, an access to the file from the storage location address.

37. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 36, wherein the first request is for checking-out the file, and further comprising:

downloading the file from the storage location address.

38. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 36, wherein the first request is for checking-in the file, and further comprising:

sending a new version of the file to the storage location address.

39. (Previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 36, further comprising:

receiving a first response code from the server in response to the first request; and

receiving a second response code from the storage location in response to the second request.

40. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the remote computer is a source code management system client, wherein the metadata is kept more proximate to the server than to the source code management system client, wherein the server communicates the one storage location address to the network for transmission to the source code management system client, and wherein the one storage location is determined by the server based on a history of request patterns from a plurality of source code management system clients.

41. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the client is a source code management system client, wherein metadata corresponding to the file is kept more proximate to the server than to the source code management system client, wherein the server communicates the storage location address to the network for transmission to the source code management system client, and wherein the storage location is determined by the server based on a history of request patterns from a plurality of source code management system clients.

42. (Previously presented) The system of claim 14, wherein the remote computer is a source code management system client, wherein the metadata is more proximate to the system than to the source code management system client, the system further comprising:

means for communicating the one storage location address to the network for transmission to the source code management system client; and

means for determining the one storage location based on a history of request patterns from a plurality of source code management system clients.

43. (Previously presented) The system of claim 23, wherein the system is a source code management system client, wherein metadata corresponding to the file is kept more proximate to the server than to the source code management system client, wherein the server communicates the storage location address to a network for transmission to the source code management system client, and wherein the storage location is determined by the server based on a history of request patterns from a plurality of source code management system clients.

44. (Previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 27, wherein the remote computer is a source code management system client, wherein the metadata is kept more proximate to the server than to the source code management system client, wherein the server communicates the one storage location address to the network for transmission to the source code management system client, wherein the one storage location is determined by the server based on a history of request patterns from a plurality of source code management system clients.

45. (Previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 36, wherein the client is a source code management system client, wherein metadata corresponding to the file is kept more proximate to the server than to the source code management system client, wherein the server communicates the storage location address to the network for transmission to the source code management system client, wherein the storage location is determined by the server based on a history of request patterns from a plurality of source code management system clients.